

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 NIC-01 DRC-01

PM-07 NSC-10 SS-20 /113 W

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R 151130Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 853

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 3647

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SW

SUBJECT: WICKMAN ON US/SWEDISH RELATIONS

1. IN NEW YORK FOR UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FOREIGN MINISTER KRISTER WICKMAN COMMENTED ON US/SWEDISH RELATIONS IN AP INTERVIEW REPORTED IN CONSERVATIVE SVENSKA DAGBLADET OF OCTOBER 13. ACCORDING TO THIS STORY, WHICH ENTITLED "NIXON STOPS NORMAL CONTACTS," WICKMAN SAID THAT "PRESIDENT NIXON HAS TAKEN PERSONALLY EMOTIONAL ATTITUDE TOWARD SWEDEN'S CRITICISM OF VIETNAM WAR. THEREFORE, RELATIONS CAN PROBABLY NOT BE UP TO ONE HUNDRED PERCENT DURING NIXON'S PRESIDENTIAL TERM.

2. " IN VIEW OF CLOSE TIES EXISTING BETWEEN SWEDEN AND UNITED STATES, IT IS RATHER ABSURD NOT HAVE NORMAL RELATIONS - BUT THAT COULD CONCEIVABLY BECOME A REALITY IN NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. NIXON WILL NOT CHANGE HIS STANDPOINT AND NEITHER WILL SWEDISH GOVERNMENT. THESE ARE FACTS WHICH, HOWEVER, ARE THINGS OF THE PAST. WE ON SWEDISH SIDE DO NOT THINK THAT IS REASON FOR NOT MAINTAINING NORMAL RELATIONS."

3. STORY CONTINUED THAT WICKMAN ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT SWEDEN HAS NO INTENTION OF HOLDING BACK JUSTIFIED CRITICISM SO THAT

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BETTER RELATIONS MIGHT BE ATTAINED. "OUR PART IN BRING ABOUT

NORMALIZATION WILL BE TO ACT AS USUAL WITH REGARD TO THESE ISSUES. WHEN OUR INTERESTS COINCIDE, WE SHALL SUPPORT US POLICY. IRONICALLY ENOUGH THE STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO FACT THAT SWEDEN IS SO USA ORIENTED. WE HAD A SWEDISH DEBATE ON VIETNAM THAT WAS A REFLECTION OF THE AMERICAN ONE."

4. ONLY OTHER SWEDISH PAPER SO FAR TO REPORT INTERVIEW IS SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ARBETET IN MALMO WHICH IN OCTOBER 13 STORY MADE GENERAL POINTS MENTIONED ABOVE BUT UNDER DIFFERENT TITLE-"SWEDISH /US CONTACTS SOON BETTER".  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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